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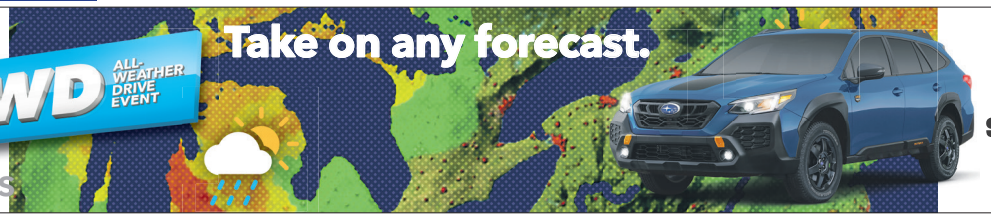
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Waste management systems

Read the column by Dysart's Waste Resource Management student on page 2.

Nature's Sketchbook

See David Alexander Risk's first sketch for Nature's Sketchbook on page 3.

Highlands Little Theatre

See more photos from *A Murder is Announced* on page 8.

The Highlands Little Theatre's production of *A Murder is Announced* dazzled audiences last week at the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion for four showtimes of the murder-mystery comedy directed by Jack Brezina, stage managed by Amy Brohm, and produced by Kate Butler. /TIM YANO Special to *County Life*

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Bridging the gap of Waste Management Systems

I CAME TO Canada from India in 2023 as a student and observed the diversity of the waste management approaches adopted by both nations. Despite social, economic, infrastructural, and cultural differences for managing waste, there is potential for both countries to learn from each other and improve waste management practices.

DIYA SINGLA
Special to County Life

Canada's waste management system is evidence of the nation's commitment to environmental stewardship and sustainability. Waste management legislation is enforced across the municipal, provincial, and federal levels of government. A major focus in Canadian jurisdictions is EPR (Extended Producer Responsibility), a policy that compels producers to take responsibility for their products' or packaging's entire lifecycle. This approach saves resources and can reduces the volume of waste generated. Measures such as blue box recycling programs educate residents to separate recyclables from garbage. In larger landfills, Canada has adopted the use of technology that converts landfill gas into electricity. This approach has significantly reduced the volume of greenhouse gases emitted into the atmosphere and led to environmental conservation in the form of green energy production. These advanced practices demonstrate Canada's proactive approach to managing waste.

On the other hand, waste management in India changed under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who introduced Swachh Bharat Abhiyan (Clean India Mission) in 2014. This was to help achieve goals such as sanitation improvement, promoting source separation of waste, and strengthening solid waste management infrastructure. It caused a massive shift towards environmental consciousness and revolutionized attitudes towards the ways of disposing waste and recycling materials. For generations, households in India have adopted conventional techniques such as biogas plants, which are setups that use organic waste to produce methane gas for cooking and lighting, and composting, a process of decomposing kitchen and garden waste to create nutrient-rich soil. These practices reduce garbage heaps, provide renewable energy sources and organic fertilizers that promote sustainable living.

India also takes an inventive approach to waste management, which includes using plastic waste to build roads. India is the only country that has a patent for this technology, making it one of its key strengths. This not only helps solve the problem of plastic pollution but also meets fast infrastructure development needs.

India could learn from Canada's institutionalized system of waste management and can borrow Canada's stiff rules and regulatory measures to ensure adherence to wastes disposal standards. Similarly, Canada can learn from India's use of traditional methods, out-of-the-box ideas, and can emulate India's community-based system of waste handling that encourages more involvement by members of the public leading to increased awareness.

It is this gap between waste disposal systems in Canada and India that shows why cross-cultural learning and collaboration are so important. By utilizing each other's strengths while addressing similar challenges, both countries will move toward sustainable and resilient ways of managing wastes. Personally, I think embracing diversity and sharing best practices are two vital steps on our way to a cleaner greener future for all.

Diya Singla is a student at Fleming College's Waste Resource Management – Environmental program and is doing a co-op placement as a Recycling Educator at the Municipality of Dysart et al.

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County Life

The following inserts are being distributed with County Life this week:

Foodland *

Minden Valumart *

Peavey Industries *

Rexall *

Shoppers Drug Mart Haliburton *

Todd's Independent *

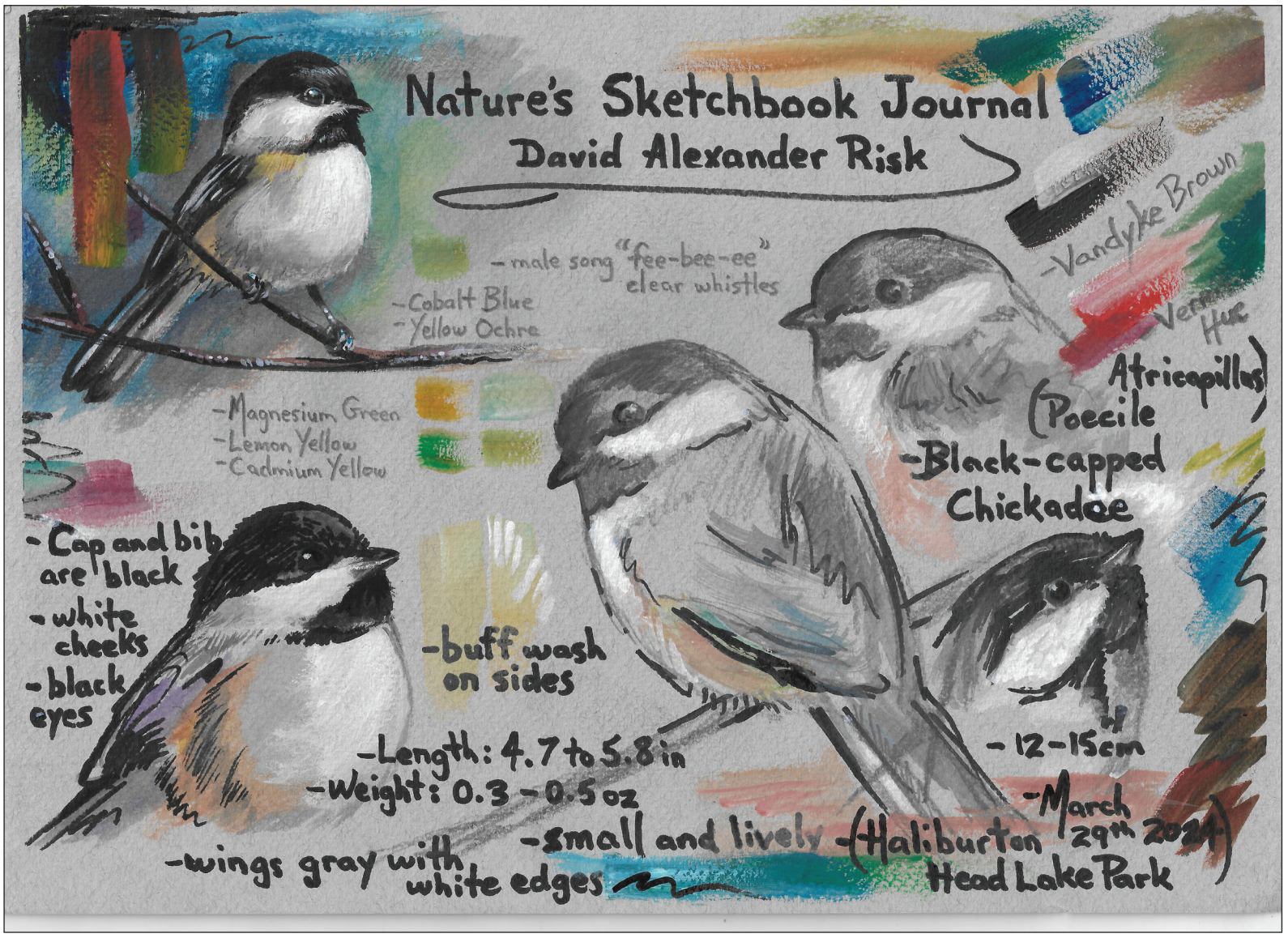
All inserts are to selected distribution areas.

For information on how your flyer can be inserted each week in County Life please contact Melissa Armstrong at **613-332-2002** or **melissa@haliburtonpress.com**

Fixer uppers

SIRCH Community Services offered their first Repair Cafe of the year on Sunday, April 7 at the SIRCH Bistro in Haliburton. Residents were able to bring in items from home needing repairs for a group of expert volunteers to try an fix, rather than contributing to landfill waste. /TIM YANO Special to *County Life*

Nature's Sketchbook by David Alexander Risk



Sketches in Nature's Sketchbook are created by David Alexander Risk, a renowned local artist dedicated to sharing his love for nature and inspiring young residents and visitors to learn more about the natural world of the Haliburton Highlands.

Writing on the Senior Side

Make a U-turn now

GAIL STELTER
Special to *County Life*

There is a cartoon drawing that pops up on Facebook from time to time. It shows two old ladies. One, dressed in suitable clothes, is sitting quietly. The other is wearing bright crazy colours, fun jewelry and looks like she is about to take off. The caption says that when I get old, I don't want people to think of me as a nice little old lady, I want them to wonder what the heck I am up to now. I like this cartoon.

There Is another print message that also pops up now and then. It says that at this point in my life, I will run away from drama and conflict and seek a quiet life of peace and serenity. I like this cartoon too.

Life on the senior side is complicated. Our minds are young and we have the desire and ability to do new things, learn new things and seek out new adventures. Our bodies hurt in different places on different days and yell out for peaceful and quiet pursuits. I want both and the key to my existence is balance. It keeps me enjoying the moving and grooving and appreciating the quiet times.

Our recent winter escape was largely a peaceful time. Writing in the mornings, swimming in the afternoons, watching the palm trees swaying at rest time and gazing at beautiful sunsets. The arrival of children for March Break was the best kind of moving and grooving. Balance.

As we set out I wonder will there be a balance on the car trip home from Florida? I hoped so. It began as expected. As we rolled across the highway towards Jacksonville, the traffic was heavy at times but not impossible. Georgia was still good. In South Carolina, the mess began. A parking lot. Peter decides to get off the highway and find another way and now my stress mounts.

In four hundred metres make a U-turn. The GPS is not happy with his decision

"Oh", he says, "nice scenery in South Carolina."

I think where are we and does he know where we are going? I say nothing. It's just better that way.

In 250 metres make a U-turn.

He says it will recalculate and give us a new map. It just keeps saying make a U-turn. He cancels the route. We are on our own.

We're on Broxton Bridge Road and we pass the Broxton Bridge Plantation. I am transported back 200 years when the Varn family built it with blood and cruelty. It was a slave plantation. I look across the land and they are vivid in my mind. I see them. Today the plantation is marketed as a tourist destination: a sportsman's paradise on 7000 acres of land, a banquet hall, civil war reenactments, fox hunts and trails for horse riding, campsites and a bed and breakfast. Still, all my mind can see are the slaves in the fields. I hurt.

What will be the next stop on this "who knows where we are" road trip? I suppose I am being too hard on Peter as he maintains he knows exactly where we are and where we will end up. I think I believe him. Even if he is wrong, really does it matter? We are just a couple of old retired Canadians going home and we will get there one way or another. I need to relax.

I am tired and my back aches, but I am not the driver, and I sympathize with Peter who has done all the driving despite his neuropathy. He amazes me that he always seems to enjoy the countryside, the forests and the creeks and rivers. It is approaching 4 o'clock and that is our stop time. We are still in South Carolina, in Orangeburg, home of South Carolina State University and Clafin University. I found out that these are "historically black universities." I am not sure what to think about this but it sure is better than slavery.

We pull into one of the well-known brand-name hotels on the main strip. It is a hotel that we are familiar with and have used extensively on our drives to and from Florida. The nice thing about checking in early is we get a ground-floor room. So did the bikers… maybe 20, maybe more. Motorcycles are noisy and this group makes me uneasy. Is that a prejudice? Perhaps. I have never thought that I am someone with such prejudices but they look ragged and I wonder what they have planned for the evening and night ahead. I must admit I am uneasy. The room is fine until I detect a smell. It takes me a while to figure it out. I think it is the combination of carpet deodorizer and animal urine. Peter doesn't smell it as much but he wants to know if I want to go to another hotel. I am too tired to move. I will wear my CPAP machine and I won't notice the smell. The motorcycles, especially the ones right outside our room are so loud. They finally become quiet and I do eventually fall asleep. It's okay.

Back on the road and smooth sailing from Orangeburg. Will South Carolina ever end? I ask a waitress what state we are in. She tells me we are in North Carolina. The young lad at the pickup window says, " Happy Easter. God Bless You." Love this but I can't help but think of Christianity combined with slavery. Strange.

Great, we are going in the right direction! The GPS is back in service. We stop somewhere near Pittsburgh. The hotel receipt tells me that we are in Washington, Pennsylvania. The hotel is lovely and quiet and my back loves the bed.

The next morning it is pouring rain and we are getting anxious to get home. Coffee for the drive will work. Peter gets two coffees and decides they need more cream. He has half and half in the car. Have I told you we have made this trip many times and we are so well prepared? So, no problem, he opens both coffees, adds the cream, puts the lids back on and we are off until… until he reaches for his coffee and the lid comes off and the whole cup spills all over him. He says he is not burned but he sure is a mess. The cream was sour and curdled. His pants are soaked but he is not stopping in this rain and traffic. He is a determined driver. We start to laugh.

GPS says we will be home at 3:30 p.m. We stop for gas in Buffalo. He has changed the course again and I am stressed again. It's a roundabout way and I am ready to scream. Border crossings usually bring on my creepy silence, not a scream. It could be I am losing my filters. I resisted the scream and raised my voice just a little bit. He is right again and we do end up at the border. I have my receipts ready and when we are asked what we are declaring I can't get the words out and mess them all up. The guard smiles and says, "Welcome Home".

It is wonderful to be back in Canada. Now I can even get sick. Yes, of course, we have health insurance for outside Canada but it is just so much easier to be sick here. I am not sick. We are home at 3:15 p.m. The sun is shining and my tulips are up. Home is great.

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Centralized Supply Chain Ontario (Supply Ontario) is seeking prospective bidders to be a part of the Vendor of Record (VOR) arrangement for Equipment and Technical Services for Event Staging for the province of Ontario.

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The selected Bidder(s) will be required to enter into an Agreement with Supply Ontario for the provision of the Deliverables of this RFB.

To bid, go to www.ontario.ca/tenders, select Current Opportunities, filter by Project Info, click Go, enter Tender_19440 2024 Equipment and Technical Services for Event Staging VOR

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Mister spider

DEBORAH J REED

Special to *County Life*

People urge me to avoid TV news since I fret about the state of civilization. But I watch anyway. And I fret. Should I be pining for simpler times? Or was I simpler?

Not sure. I remember learning to crouch under my school desk when I was 10. Why? I'd ask. I recall a piercing siren practicing from the high school roof. What? I'd repeat. Scary things also happened back then. People tossed garbage from moving cars onto highways. No guilt. No seatbelts. And bullies have been beating up the weak or smallish forever.

I've always felt smallish. My adulting of the past half-century still hasn't resolved every confusion. TV once delivered only black and white basics. Few editorials. Newspapers simply highlighted bigger facts in bigger fonts. Today, the media perplexes and triggers me. Yet I look.

Was there once a simpler time? I'd been a pathologically curious youngster. Wish I'd thought to thank my parents for so much bedtime patience around addressing my endless questions.

Gratefully, I have both companion and house for growing older. My touchstone comfort totems - feral cat, worn paintbrushes, original guitar, a vintage ivy - also help keep me safe.

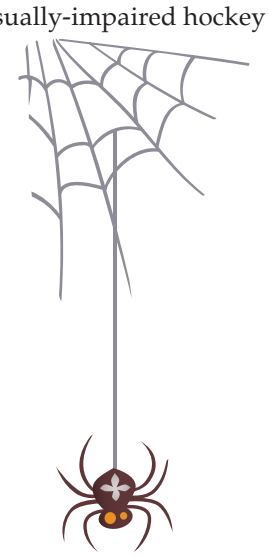
History is a looping sideshow. We won't look away. We're in it. Power and victim. Checks, balances. One giant chronic tangled web. My nerves stay frayed. Fragile, ephemeral. Stable for a second, then easily dissolved. Like cotton candy. Like faith. Like progress. Rinse and repeat.

Speaking of webs, whenever I'm in Toronto, I check in on my most recent totem. A survivor. A daddy longlegs, now nesting beside a neon light in my apartment. I'd airlifted the creature from the slickness of the bathtub. My 8-eyed 'cellar spider' seemed near-dead from all its futile escape circles. One quick soft pinch, and I relocated it to a safer space above the kitchen sink.

Because I'm an obvious Golden Ager doesn't also mean I'm scuttling in random circles. I've always helped the smallish. I've rescued drowning bees, newborn field mice, stranded worms, vulnerable terrapins, centipedes, sow-bugs, and tiny fallen eggs.

It generally challenges my own thin-skin to step in. Yet I believe we're innately compassionate. Damaging stuff might happen during lifetimes to turn some people self-obsessed. But essential grace begins before birth. My hope, anyway.

I've just turned on CP24. Looping news updates are very popular. We can watch TV and believe it. Or not. Terrorism, tragedy, bullies, victims. Righteousness and helpless surrender...but tonight, there's also a story about a rescued deer. School-kids decluttering city ravines. Visually-impaired hockey players during a PWHL intermission. TONS of applause.



I'm more country mouse than city mouse. Haliburton is a quieter nest from which to observe. Spiders work here too. And Turtle Guardians. SIRCH. The Rails End Gallery…commitment, et al. Faith.

I'll visit my basement daddy longlegs again soon. Our tabby happens to be called Spider. My father once invented a kindly invisible Mister Spider to 'chat' with tiny anxious me during bath-time.

I never step on spiders.

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Send your letters to the editor to vivian@haliburtonpress.com. Letters must be signed and include a phone number.

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News Media Canada
Médias d'Info Canada

How does your garden grow?

KATE BUTLER
Special to *County Life*

Spring is a magical season for gardening enthusiasts. After a winter of dreaming and planning, it's time to start new seeds and to check which plants are waking up from their winter slumber. (It can also be the time to say, "What is that plant and why is it coming up over there?" but that may just be me!) Even for those who aren't ardent gardeners, spring brings magic in the form of budding trees, scatters of early flowers and the bright green bursts of wild leeks in the forest

Those spring treats which could be foraged must have been such a welcome surprise for settlers arriving in the Highlands in the nineteenth century. So many had come with plans to farm, but found that they faced challenges in clearing land and dealing with declining soil quality and soil erosion. Many were brand-new to farming, while those who did bring farming experience with them might have been used to longer growing seasons and milder winters, not to mention fewer blackflies and mosquitoes! It can be so easy to focus on the stories of challenges faced, but there are also many stories of creativity, diversification and agricultural success.

In the mid-1960s, Marjorie Barrett, then of Port Dover, shared her reminisces of her childhood in Haliburton Village at the turn of the twentieth century in the pages of the Echo through a weekly column. In one column, she recalled the market garden which Ben Walling, whose family was perhaps locally best known for running Walling's Dairy, operated for several years. He would provide a door to door delivery service of the season's produce for those who might not have had the space, time or inclination to grow their own vegetables. Marjorie's descriptions are enough to make one want to step back in time to make a purchase. In her column, she spoke admiringly of exquisite spring rhubarb, tender shelled green peas and huge snow white cauliflower, amongst other treasures. So greatly sought after was the produce that Ben Walling sold that residents would carefully watch for his approach and fervently hope that their neighbours didn't snap up all he had for sale before they had a chance to make their purchases.

Today, just as in the past, we're lucky enough to have amazing local food producers in the Haliburton Highlands and in just a few weeks our local farmers' markets will once again be starting up across the County. These markets are a great opportunity to connect with local food producers, but also a way to enjoy the produce that is locally grown in each season. Today, we have the luxury of enjoying food in whatever season we choose, as well as produce grown in other parts of the world which would have dazzled local residents even a hundred years ago, but remembering to also enjoy what's seasonal and locally grown has a way of bringing us into the present moment with a different appreciation.

It's also not too late to make some plans for your own garden for this year, as a way to connect with the seasons. Don't forget that you can start small - a couple of containers on a deck or a window box full of herbs can give you the pleasure and satisfaction of gardening without feeling any pressure. Here's to the magic of spring.

Top 10 reasons my cat dislike dogs

IT'S NO secret that cats and dogs maintain a tenuous truce at best. Our household has two cats and a loveable dog. So, in an act of Pulitzer prize journalism, I interviewed one Mumbles J. Galea, our senior cat, to find out why he dislikes dogs.

STEVE GALEA
Humour Columnist

Let me just remind you, Mumbles does not speak for all cats. To suggest that would be silly.

Nevertheless, here are the top 10 reasons Mumbles dislikes dogs.

1. The far-sighted ones mistake us for squirrels.
2. Despite all the time I spend on window sills, no one has ever asked, "How much is that kitty in the window?'
3. When a dog does its business, it gets picked up and bagged. I am expected to bury my own in a box.
4. A cat is no one's best friend.
5. I play dead all the time. No one makes a big deal of that.
6. There is no TV feline equivalent to Lassie.
7. Dogs will not join the secret uprising I am planning.
8. Dogs have no dignity. All you need to do is see their birthday party social media posts to know this.
9. As a cat, I resent that people say I have 4 canine teeth.
10. Before I can retrieve a bird, I have to kill it.

Return

Clouds, muting morning light,
as hundreds of feathered heartbeats, soar across Sky, my eyes trailing the path of their flight,
counting the number of Vees, I see, as the fleet of geese, flies so high,
I wonder whether they are here to stay, or just passing through,
flapping their way back towards the place they knew,
wondering whether it will be the same as they remember, their honks, tearing Air, announcing their return,
as I listen, with my ears, and that still place inside me, too, that speaks without words,
its whispers, so soft, sometimes, I barely hear, the honks, blaring at me to listen to the sound of being Alive,
as I stand, frozen on the ground, my feet, rooted to the riverbank,
craning my neck up towards the wonder of Sky,
my eyes, flitting between the Vees of geese, appearing and disappearing, their honks, fading,
'till they grow quiet as that place inside me, that's maybe as vast as Sky above me,
as I watch a new gaggle of geese appear, straggling behind the ones that came before,
and I wonder about the language of departure and return,
whether they honk louder when they leave or arrive,
spring luring their heartbeats back to the Lakes and Rivers they remember,
the still space inside me, swelling with a longing to return to a place that's no longer there,
as I drink swigs of morning Air, Sun trying to peek through layers of clouds,
the honking of geese, so loud, it muzzles the memory of that petrified place,
and I resume walking along the path that winds along the River,
the water, quivering, as breeze blows across it, this feeling of being Alive,
as Vees of geese trail one another across Sky,
my eyes following their flight, 'till they disappear from view, Sky, growing quiet again,
as I pause on the path to listen to the stillness, the whispers, blaring, loud and clear,
my eyes, stroking Sky, thanking the geese, grateful for their return, year after year.

Sylvie Kalenda

What's happening at Point in Time?

Reminder of our services and supports

We are continuing to offer mental health and counselling supports in person at our offices or the Youth Hub, virtually via zoom or by phone. Point in Time office hours are 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and appointments are available as needed after hours as well.

The Youth Wellness Hub is open to youth aged 12 to 25 on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, 9 to 5, Tuesdays and Thursdays 12 to 8, and the second Saturday of every month 9 to 5.

We offer Quick Access Clinics where individuals or families can be seen quickly by calling or texting 705-457-5345 to set up an appointment.

We are open for crisis calls from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday, and work with another agency, 310 COPE, to provide after hours coverage. We work together to ensure around-the-clock crisis supports. For after hours crisis support, please call or text 310-COPE at 1-855-310-2673.

Youth Wellness Hub Update

April's Youth Hub activities include Thursday Dungeons & Dragons, Art Journal Peer Group, Karaoke, Litter Cleanup, Mindful Colouring, T-Shirt Making, Beading with Ashley and Megan, and tutoring and homework help every Tuesday!

Check out our April calendar on Instagram and keep track of all of our drop-in activities and events by following us on instagram @halicountyyouthhub!

Early Intervention Update

Are you interested in tracking your child's development process? Our 18-month Baby Screening is coming to Haliburton on May 15. Call Point in Time to register: 705-457-5345. Details for a Minden session will be coming soon.

Free virtual event

The Haliburton County Connections Committee would invite you to a presentation and film by Dr. Sandra McNeil on Recovery, Identity, Resistance: Substance Use Recovery and Stigma in Rural Areas.

This free one hour virtual event will take place on Thursday, May 9 at from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. and strives to disrupt our assumptions about substance use, complicate current understandings of recovery, and promote social inclusion to eliminate stigma and discrimination.

Please register with Amanda at amandadl@pointintime.ca by May 6 with your name, contact details and occupation.

Quality Assurance Update

Our Quality Assurance Coordinating Team has recently engaged our community partners in a bi-annual evaluation of our services. Ninety six per cent of respondents agreed that staff are helpful and respectful, and 92 per cent would recommend Point in Time's services. Thanks to all who took the time to give feedback!

Submitted

Community Events

Send your event listing to classifieds@haliburtonpress.com

Cribbage and Euchre
When: Tuesdays at 2 p.m.
Where: St. George's Anglican Church, 617 Mountain St.
Join us Tuesdays for cribbage and Euchre at St. George's Anglican Church. Please contact lynnhiggsthompson@haliburtonanglican.ca for more information.

Scottish Country Dancing
When: Wednesdays, 7:30 - 9 p.m.
Where: Haliburton United Church, 10 George St.
A multigenerational, lively, rockin' good time! You don't have to be Scottish to enjoy Scottish Country Dancing. Beginners welcome, no partner required. Bbring soft soled indoor shoes. RSVP to haliburtonscottishcountrydance@gmail.com by Tuesday evening. $5 per person, per evening.

Community Yard Sale Registration
When: now until spots are filled
Where: 20 George Street, Haliburton
Spaces are now available to rent for the community yard sale taking place on Saturday, July 13, Hosted by North Entrance Masonic Lodge. Rentals begin at $15. Book early - spots are limited. For more info or to book your spot contact Rob Parish at 705-935-1921 or robparish707@yahoo.ca

CARP Fraud Seminar
When: April 17, 10 a.m. - 12 noon
Where: Haliburton United Church, 10 George Street
Join us for a fraud seminar, hosted by CARP Chapter 54, featuring OPP Officer Hilary Newman. This will be an excellent opportunity to learn about common scams, how to recognize them and steps to take if you've fallen victim to fraud. Everyone is welcome and refreshments will be served.

Haliburton County Historical Society
When: April 18, 1:30 p.m.
Where: Haliburton Museum, 66 Museum Rd.
Please join the Haliburton County Historical Society and Fay Martin, Vice President of Places for People, and learn what Places for People is all about!

Stanhope and Community Fly-In to Spring
When: May 4, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Where: 1168 Stanhope Airport Rd, Algonquin Highlands
Antique and classic aircraft, enjoy a variety of food and drinks, and see model aeroplanes, firetrucks and MNR displays. Aeroplane and helicopter rides available. For more information contact Steve Dewey at sdewey@algonquinhighlands.ca

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Crime scenes

The Highlands Little Theatre's production of A Murder is Announced dazzled audiences last week at the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion for four showtimes of the murder-mystery comedy directed by Jack Brezina, stage managed by Amy Brohm, and produced by Kate Butler. /TIM YANO Special to *County Life*

ADVERTORIAL

AGING TOGETHER AS COMMUNITY
Key Findings from Community Research on Aging

From January - March 2024, Aging Together as Community worked with researcher Kat Schouten and U-Links Centre for Community-Based Research to understand the strengths and challenges of aging in Haliburton County. Below is a summary of the methods and findings of the research.

Background

In Haliburton County there is a growing aging population who are looking for resources that will allow them to age in place and age healthily. Aging Together as Community, was formed to mobilize Haliburton County in conversations around aging, fighting ageism and co-creating community supports for seniors.

Research Questions

1. What existing services/resources are currently available to seniors in Haliburton County?

2. What are the challenges seniors face in accessing and utilizing the available services/resources they need to age healthy?

Methods

In Depth Interviews: 9 In-Depth Interviews: 40 minutes in length and conducted with seniors. They spoke about their experience aging here as well as their roles as care partners and services providers in the community.

Survey 1: Seniors: 164 Respondents: This survey was launched and distributed at the Aging Together as Community Conference on January 27th. All respondents live full time in Haliburton County.

Survey 2: Service Providers: 14 Respondents: This survey was launched and distributed through the Aging Together as Community Steering Committee and shared with service providers in the county.

3 Key Findings

i. Why Age Here?

Even as the list of challenges continues to extend, these are three main pillars of why people want to age in Haliburton County.

1. **Welcoming & Friendly Community**
2. **Many Organizations to Get Involved With**
3. **The Natural Environment**

*"This was always a very responsive community. When something happened - if there was a flooding. The whole community would come together to help and that is a wonderful thing. It made a very powerful impact on us – **it's what kept us here and it's what keeps us here."** – Senior, Haliburton County*

ii. Asset Based Map

Throughout the interviews and surveys, over 300 community 'assets' were documented. An asset is a service, event, club, organization or place that a senior uses to age healthy physically and mentally.

Asset Maps Categories
Arts & Culture · Care Partner Supports · Events · Health Care Resources · Organizations · Physical Activities · Support Services · Volunteering Opportunities

iii. Challenges for Aging

1. Affordability & Isolation: Haliburton has some of the highest rates of poverty and with rising costs seniors with lower incomes are experiencing high barriers to access the necessities for healthy aging.

2. Social Connection: Many seniors are deeply engaged in the social activities in Haliburton County, however, this is not true for everyone. Getting involved helps to make sure that people are connected to their communities and helps them know where to turn when they need help. Without this connection many are lost.

3. Health Care: The lucky few with access to a family doctor rave about their great experiences. Those without doctors, try to figure out how they can avoid the healthcare system as much as possible. When PSWs or specialists are needed, they are unaccessible leaving seniors, care partners and neighbours struggling to fill in the gaps.

4. End of Life Planning: Seniors want to understand their options when it comes to having a good death and want the tools to have end of life planning discussions with their families, especially around MAID.

5. Housing & Neighbourliness: Seniors who want to age at home struggle to find supports to age in place. Neighbours who used to help with small tasks around the home, seem to not have time anymore and paid supports are unreliable. Seniors want to understand what types of housing are available to them and understand if there are alternative housing models to support them in aging healthily.

6. Transportation: 'We are still okay because we can drive', was a common statement from seniors. As soon as seniors lose their ability to drive, their ability to socialize, access groceries and access healthcare declines quickly. There is a need for consistent, affordable and accessible transportation options.

7. Mobility & Accessibility: As seniors become less mobile, some of their favourite businesses, public spaces and events start to become inaccessible as they aren't designed for wheelchairs or for safe walking. Seniors dream of towns that are walkable, accessible and fall proof through all the seasons.

Want to Get Involved?

Join Aging Together as Community's Mailing List or Facebook Group Today!

- Email: agingtogetherhc@gmail.com
- Facebook: Aging Together - Haliburton Highlands

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Pro brings lacrosse camp to county

VIVIAN COLLINGS
County Life Editor

Professional lacrosse player Scott Stewart has started a lacrosse camp for all experience levels to the Highlands. /Photos submitted

Scott Stewart, former professional lacrosse player in the National Lacrosse League, has recently moved to the County with his family and is excited to share his love for the sport in the Haliburton Highlands.

"I did a skate school this winter, and all the parents said I should start teaching lacrosse here because there aren't any local opportunities for kids to play," Steward said. "It's just so fun. I loved it growing up, and for me it was an escape from the pressure and seriousness of hockey."

Stewart started playing lacrosse at age 8 and hockey at age 3.

He played in the OHL as a young adult before shifting his focus to professional lacrosse for 12 years.

"I got drafted in the first round very young, turned it down, and then got drafted in the first round again and took it. It was such a great experience. I got to travel a lot and am so lucky to have had that opportunity."

Having grown up in Brantford, he spent his summers playing lacrosse on the Six Nations reserve.

"The roots of the game are so important. Lacrosse is an Indigenous sport that was played long before Europeans got here. I'm grateful to have played with a local Indigenous community growing up," he said. "The Creator's Game is what it's called."

Stewart will be teaching lacrosse history at the camp.

It'll run for six weeks from Tuesday, April 23 to Tuesday, May 28 from 6 to 7 p.m. at the AJ LaRue Arena in Haliburton.

The cost is $150 per child.

Scott's wife Nicole is currently the chair of Razzamataz.

"We came up here and thought, if you can dream it, you can do it."

Stewart said lacrosse is the perfect way for hockey players to condition and train during the off season.

"A lot of kids looking for that edge in hockey should consider trying it out," he said.

There will be a free lacrosse night on Thursday, April 18 from 6 to 7 p.m. at the Haliburton Highlands Secondary School gym hosted by Scott for kids ages 8 and up to have the chance to try it out before registering.

The event is sponsored by the Minden Tim Hortons, and Bracebridge Source for Sports will be there wil lacrosse equipment available for purchase.

Running shoes, a caged helmet, and gloves are required. Sticks are provided.

For more information or to register, email laxstar8@gmail.com or call 416-735-9564.

The Municipality of
DYSART ET AL
In the Heart of the Haliburton Highlands

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THANK YOU TO ALL OUR VOLUNTEER COACHES

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Haliburton County Home Builders Association www.hchba.ca

JOB FAIR DAY is returning!

Haliburton County Home Builders Association www.hchba.ca

The Haliburton County Home Builders' Association is working to address the employee shortage in the county!

The labour shortage in Haliburton County isn't going away. We believe that bringing back the Job Fair Day at Haliburton Highlands Secondary School will allow the students and employers to come together in a familiar place to discuss job opportunities. This event is scheduled on Wednesday, May 8, 2024.

Job Fair Day will be an event where businesses of all different sizes and industries from across Haliburton County will be on display in the high school cafeteria for students and others to meet and learn what is available close to home. This is a perfect place for students to bring their resumes and talk to employers about summer jobs or post secondary employment.

This is not a 'trade' only Job Fair. We would like to include as many businesses as possible from across Haliburton County. We will also have outdoor space available for any participants who would like to bring larger tools or equipment.

Job Fair Day will be free to participating businesses, visitors and students. The event will take place on **Wednesday May 8, 2024. Starting at 8:30 am until 1:00 pm** in the High school cafeteria.

We would like to encourage you to add this to your list of must attend and register for space with the HCHBA as soon as possible. **Please contact the Home Builders Association before April 30, 2024**, so we can plan the space properly.

Contact Information:
Aggie Tose
705-457-6901 ~ info@hchba.ca

Haliburton County Home Builders Association ~ Keystone Sponsors 2023 -24

Colouring Contest!

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Get out your crayons, pastels or markers and do your best to colour in this Mother's Day feature for your chance to win one of three gift cards for your Mom from Glecoff's Family Store.

County Life will be selecting a winner in three age categories: up to five years old; five to 10; and 11 and up.

Drop if off at Glecoff's Family Store, take a photo, or scan it and email it to classifieds@haliburtonpress.com. Be sure to include your name, age, and contact information. The deadline is Wed., May 1 by 5 p.m.

Winners will be contacted. Submitted entries may appear in the May 9 issue of County Life.

Nature in your backyard

County Life welcomes photo submissions depicting life in the Highlands. Email vivian@ haliburtonpress.com. Please ensure images are high resolution - 200 dpi, 10 inches at its longest edge.

Deer passing through the yard. /Submitted by Jill Moulton

A Common Grackle with a stone. /Submitted by Jill Moulton

Litter Bins

Street and park litter bins are for litter you generate there (coffee cups, pet waste, etc.)

Placing waste from your home or business in litter bins is **illegal dumping**. You could be fined.

Take your waste to a landfill during regular operating hours.

Illegal Dumping

Report illegal dumping at **dysartetal.ca/illegaldumping**

Short-term Renters

Short-term renters staying at a property in Dysart need to use a One-Time Landfill Pass to enter any Dysart landfill.

Property owners can provide a One-Time Landfill Pass to renters to make their stay that much more easy, but short-term renters in Dysart can purchase them too.

One-Time Landfill Passes cost $5 each at Haliburton, Harcourt, Kennisis Lake, and West Guilford Landfills, or Haliburton Welcome Centre, during regular operating hours. Debit card and credit card accepted. One-Time Landfill Passes have an expiry date.

Get more info at **dysartetal.ca/shorttermrenter**

Municipality of Dysart et al

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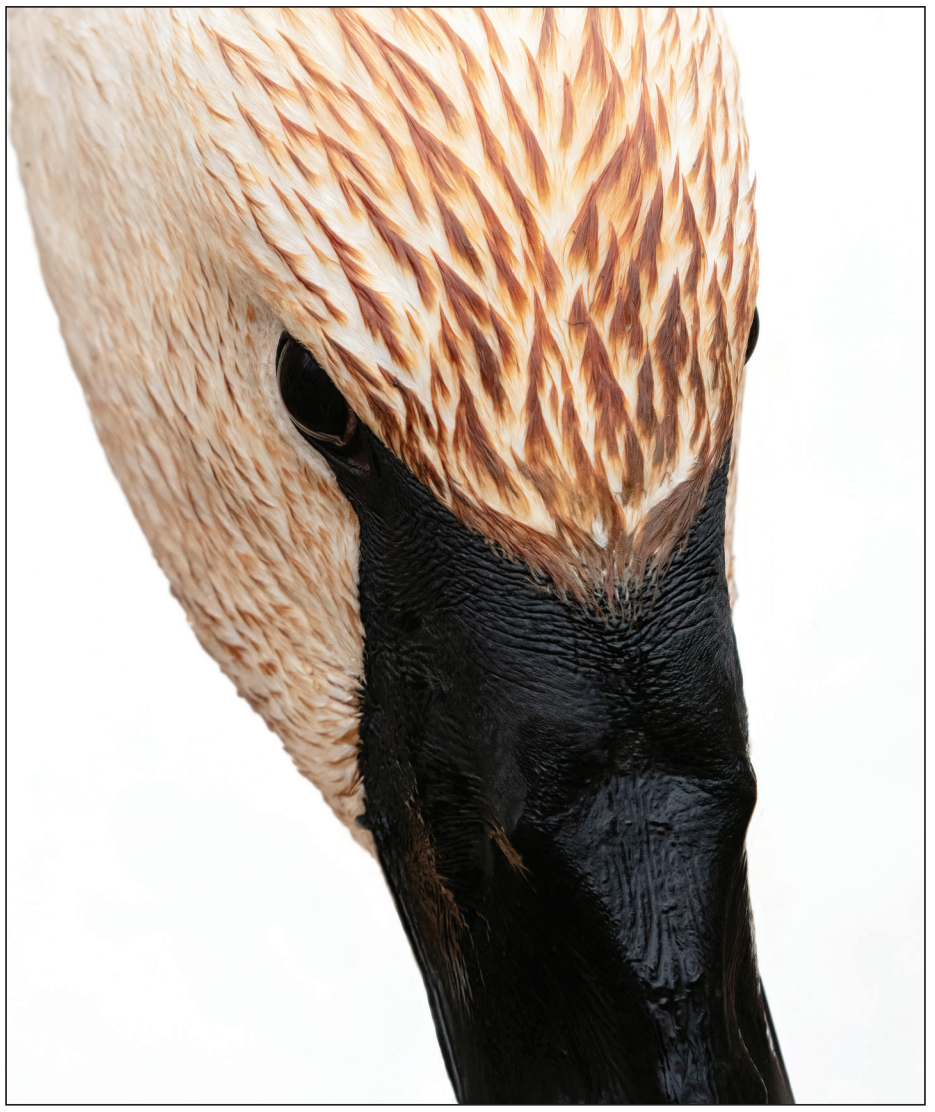

Close-up of a Trumpeter Swan. /Submitted by Tammy Nash

A male Downy Woodpecker has a snack from the feeder. /Submitted by Jill Moulton

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2006 Volkswagon Jetta, Diesel, Automatic, fuel economy, completely gone over. Snow tires already on it and 4 Summer tires on rims. Certified. Asking $8,000 obo. Call **1-800-954-9998** or **705-741-6097**

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CUT SPLIT & DELIVERED seasoned firewood 90% maple/all hardwood. Very clean wood. Dry also available. CALL AND INQUIRE: **705-930-7198**

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Local children's summer camp is accepting applications for cleaning and maintenance positions. Full and seasonal opportunities available. Wide variety of duties including camp start-up and close down. Salaries based on experience. Submit resume to, **rob@campnbb.com** or leave a message at **705-754-2374** for more information.

Hyland Ice Supply NOW Accepting Applications for 2024 Summer Season for Drivers Helpers, **(students)** Production Staff and Drivers (D, DZ, G) Please contact us via e-mail: **info@hylandice.com** or by telephone: **705-448-2973** Attention Carol

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If you are interested please send a resume to watsongeneralcontracting@sympatico.ca or drop off at the Maple Lake or Scotchline sites or contact Michelle Watson at (705) 854-1382 or (705) 754-9904

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Drivers Wanted

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Apply Now!
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Camp Timberlane is a co-ed residential summer camp for campers aged 6 – 16. For more information about the camp, visit us at **www.Camptimberlane.ca**

Grounds Keeping/Maintenance - Full Time, Temporary, Contract
Two positions available are available for Maintenance and Grounds Keeping.
Responsibilities include: keeping the grounds clean and clear of garbage and waste, grass cutting and leaf blowing, landscape maintenance, empty garbage receptacle, operation of front loader, painting, delivering wood for firepits. Sundry duties as assigned. Manual labour or construction experience will be an asset

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Two positions available for Housekeeping and Laundry.
Responsibilities include: cleaning of all buildings, accommodations, washrooms, shower facilities and common areas throughout the camp, including the turnover of living space throughout camp and overall upkeep of camp facilities. Cleaning and light maintenance duties include, but not limited to sweeping, mopping, cleaning, painting and replenishing supplies needed for showers and washrooms.

Expected Start date: April 1, 2024
Candidates must enjoy working outside. A typical work week is 40 hours with potential for overtime. Willing to take required government safety certifications such as WHMIS. Able to support a positive team environment. Salary Range: Both Housekeeping/Laundry and Maintenance/Grounds keeping: $17.50 - $19.50 per hour based on experience. **Submit resume by email to Jay@camptimberlane.ca**

***Onondaga Camp, Minden, seeks* Cleaning Services**
2 Summer Staff - $20.00/hr

We are looking for Cleaners to care for our facilities by providing a high standard of cleaning and light maintenance duties. The goal is to keep all facilities in a clean and orderly condition. Responsibilities are to clean and stock designated facility areas (disinfecting, dusting, sweeping, vacuuming, mopping, restroom cleaning etc.), carry out heavy cleansing tasks and special projects, notify management of occurring deficiencies or needs for repairs, stock and maintain supply rooms, cooperate with the rest of the staff, follow all health and safety regulations, knowledge of cleaning chemicals and supplies, familiarity with Material Safety Data Sheets. Up to 40 hour work week Summer (5 days, Scheduled Weekends). Daily and Evening shifts available.
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If you wish to apply, please send a resume to Matt Brown/Site Manager at ***matt@onondagacamp.com***. Please feel free to contact at (705-286-5025)
A truly Canadian summer tradition, Onondaga Camp offers an extraordinary environment for kids to play, explore, achieve and grow. Situated on the shores of Middle Bob Lake near Minden, Ontario, Onondaga inspires the best in outdoor fun, learning and adventure for girls and boys from six to 16 years old. Onondaga Camp values the diversity of people. We welcome and encourage applications from people with disabilities. Arrangements will be provided, on request, to support candidates taking part in all aspects of the selection process. All responses will be handled with strict confidence.

GET IT online
www.haliburtonecho.ca
www.mindentimes.ca

County Classifieds

540 COMING EVENTS

NORWOOD COUNTRY JAMBOREE

48 Alma Street, Norwood Fair Grounds

Thursday, July 18 - Sunday, July 21

Thursday: Rick Amair, Gwendolyn Stellar, Cheryl Adrain, **Larry MacDonald**
Friday: Amy Lynch, Kurtis Stoker, Phil Denault, **Sylvie Rioux**
Saturday: Mikaela Roach, Leo Stock, Bart Lynch, Stewart Irvine, **Yvan Petit**
Sunday: Gospel Hour, **Bart Lynch**
OPEN MIC THURSDAY, FRIDAY & SATURDAY 1 PM TO 5 PM

Advanced Ticket Prices Before June 15, 2024: $120/person
After June 15 and at the gate: $130 (includes rough camping)
Day Prices: Thursday to Saturday, $25, Sunday $15
(Camping not included). Dump Station on site, $10.
Showers on site FREE. Bring your own chairs. Drinking tap water available for free.

1-800-954-9998 or 705-741-6097 /info@norwoodcountryjamboree.com

Tickets sold at Kawartha Battery-Peterborough, Wilson Tire-Lindsay,
JJ Stewart Motors-Norwood, Long & McQuade-Peterborough, Norwood Home Hardware,
Cooks Barber Shop-Marmora, Doris MacMillan-Stirling, Bill Bekkers-Wilberforce,
Dave Lockwood-Campbellford

Legion Events

Branch 129 Haliburton

Mondays: Bridge every Monday, 1 p.m. Schofield Rm.
Tuesdays: League darts starting at 7 p.m. Haliburton Army Cadets practice 6:30 to 9 p.m. (Sept to June)
Wednesdays: Bid Euchre 1 p.m. start – Main Hall. Bingo doors open at 6 p.m. Bingo starts at 7 p.m. First Wed of each month - $1000 jackpot, rest will be a $500 jackpot. Follow Facebook. com/Branch129 Bingo for up-to-date information
Thursdays: General Meeting third Thursday of the month, starting at 6:30 p.m. All members urged to attend. Ladies Auxiliary last Thursday of the month at 1 p.m.
Fridays: Meat draw has five draws, five prizes each draw, first draw at 4:30 p.m., last draw at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are $2 per draw. Ed Pickard, MC. Friday fun darts from 4:30 p.m. and onwards.
Saturdays: 50/50 Draw 4 p.m. draw – tickets $1 each - in the Clubroom. Every second Saturday from 7 to 10 p.m. Folks Society open mic in the clubroom. All welcome.
Whether you're planning a function for 10 or 200, for more information call Cheryl Waller at 905-447-7741, email haliburtonlegionrentals@gmail.com or visit haliburtonlegion.com. Come on out and support Haliburton Legion Branch 129 .. everyone is welcome!
Club room hours: Mon. 3 to 6 p.m., Tues. 3 to 9 p.m., Wed/Thurs. 3 to 6 p.m. Fri. 3 to 7 p.m. and Sat. 3 to 6 p.m.

Branch 636 Minden

Lunch - Monday to Friday
Monday: Rug Hookers every second week. Bid Euchre 1 to 3 p.m.
Tuesday: Food 5 p.m. Canoe FM Bingo 6 p.m.
Thursday: Cribbage 1 to 3 p.m., Darts 7 to 9 p.m. and Euchre 7 to 9 p.m.
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Cooking up a storm

Highly qualified assistant Mary Wilson blends up a wonderful high-spirited concoction as Shirley Colliss provides muddled instructions. The galloping gourmets cooked up some laughter for the women who took part in the Sweep Into Spring curling bonspiel at the Minden Curling Club on April 1. Acting out hilarious skits has become a tradition at this, the final bonspiel of the year.

Ministry stamp is final hurdle

Barb Dawson urges public to write minister, premier

Only one hurdle remains to be cleared before the plans for the expansion of the Haliburton Hospital can go to tenders.

That hurdle is the Ministry of Health's stamp of approval and, unfortunately, it is feared that this will be the most difficult obstacle of all in the community's bid for the added hospital beds.

Tender-ready drawings of the 18-bed chronic-care expansion were sent to the ministry on March 31, Barb Dawson told The Times last week. Now it's all up to the ministry, said the second vice chairman of the St. Joseph's Hospital Board.

Completion of the plans was the final detail that could be accomplished by the architects before this project could go to tenders. The hospital board is now awaiting ministry approval of the plans.

Dawson, who is the chairman of the board's property committee, says her fingers are crossed in hopes of speedy approval. However, she senses it may be a long wait. She says she spoke with Health Minister Elinor Caplan in early March and was told that a speedy approval of the plans was not likely to be in the cards. The ministry is moving very slowly on porojects throughout the province, she said and Haliburton is unlikely to be an exception.

After a surprisingly successful local fundraising

(more on page 3)

Council tries to settle roads dispute

by Jay Kerr-Wilson

Anson, Hindon and Minden Townships Council is making another attempt to resolve the controversy surrounding the road into the Highland Gate Estates subdivision.

At a special meeting on Thursday, council met with representatives of the subdivision and the Ministry of Transportation to explore what options are available to settle the dispute.

Residents of the subdivision believe the municipality should be responsible for the upgrading and maintenance of the roads. The council that was in place prior to the November elections took the opposite stand, saying that it is the developer's responsibility to first bring the road up to Ministry of Transportation standards. Both parties' claims are substantiated by contradicting bylaws that were approved by previous councils.

Last Thursday's meeting was the first opportunity for the residents to discuss this issue with the newly-elected council and representatives of the ministry.

The committee representing Highland Gate had requested the meeting to get a clear indication of the status of the subdivision and to get input from the transportation ministry.

Highland Gate resident Doug Campbell told the meeting that the subdivision residents weren't asking for anything except that the municipality honour the 1982 bylaw which says the township will pave the road.

He said the bylaw acknowledges that the developer had fulfilled his end of the agreement and that the township would assume the road and cover it with hard top. Campbell said the term hard top referred to hot-mix asphalt. "We're not asking for storm sewers or curbs," he said. "We are just interested in the road."

During the course of the meeting it became apparent that there was some confusion about what the minimum standard of the road would have to be to receive ministry approval.

Ministry spokesman Andy Mintz told the meeting that

(more on page 14)

Fire cutbacks concern municipalities

by Jay Kerr-Wilson

A supervisor from the Ministry of Natural Resources Fire Operations Centre in Haliburton says he sympathizes with municipalities' concerns about the recent cut-backs in the ministry's fire crews.

Fire Operations Manager Tom Russell attended last week's meeting of Monmouth Township Council to try and answer councillors' questions and respond to concerns. Many municipalities are upset at the recent announcement that local fire departments may be required to take a more active role in fighting forest fires this summer.

Russell told council that a great deal of the concern seems to revolve around the agreements between the ministry and the municipalities regarding who is responsible for fighting forest and bush fires. The agreements, dating back to the 1950's, state that municipalities are responsible for fighting fires within their boundaries. The ministry reimburses the townships for half the cost of fighting forest and bush fires on private land and 100 per cent of the cost of fighting fires on Crown land.

There has been no change in the original agreements, according to Russell, and the ministry fire crews will provide back-up if the municipal fire departments need help.

Russell said the municipalites have the right to cancel the agreements but would then be liable for the full cost of fighting the fires. The ministry has an agreement with every municipality in the Minden District.

If there are not a great number of fires this summer, Russell said it's possible municipalities won't notice the difference between this and previous years. But due to drastic cut-backs in the number of ministry fire fighting personnel in the district, local fire departments may find themselves playing a more active role.

The Haliburton Fire Centre has been dealt a 40 per cent reduction in fire fighters and the region has suffered a 46 per cent decrease. Russell said he will only have nine men instead of the usual 15 and only six men on duty at any given time instead of 10.

In past years the ministry crews have kept a watch on fire locations for several days after the fire has been extinguished to ensure that the blaze is not restarted by smoldering hot spots. This year Russell says he may not have enough people to do

(more on page 22)

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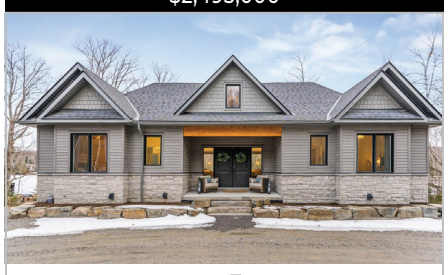

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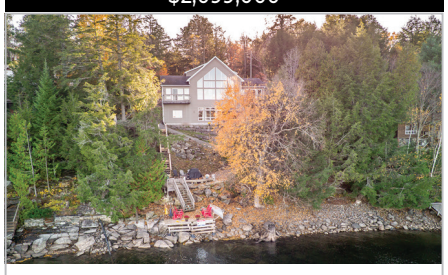

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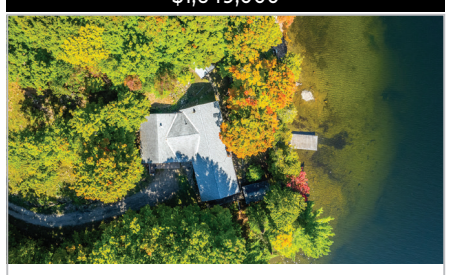

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HALIBURTON LAKE
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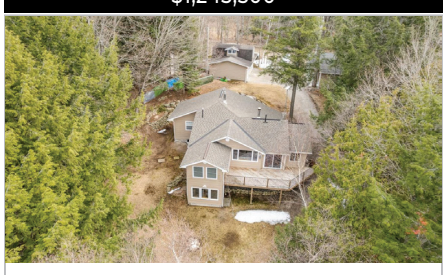

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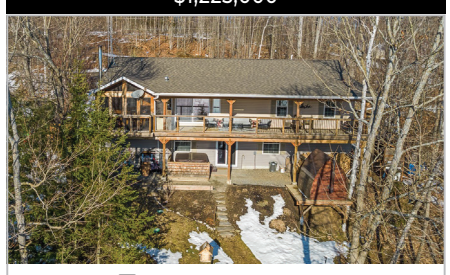

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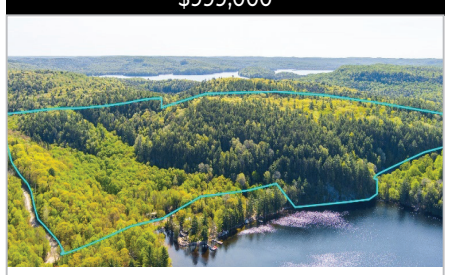
MLS# 40547278

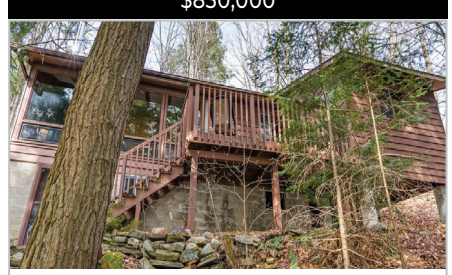
HALIBURTON LAKE
$999,000



169 ACRES · 3 X BED · 2 X BATH · SOUTHWEST EXPOSURE

MLS# 40424313

KENNISIS LAKE
$830,000



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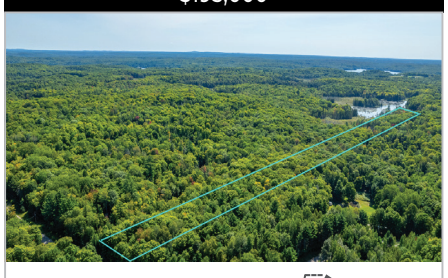

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